

Erosion Control Mat

Definition: Application of a permanent erosion control blanket to the surface of the soil.

Purpose: To provide erosion control on areas that are subject to concentrated flows. To provide protection against the erosive flow of water and permit establishment of vegetation.

Where Applicable: On severely eroded areas, steep slopes, waterways, and ditches. On areas where velocity of flow is too great to establish vegetation, and where riprap or other paving is unnecessary or unacceptable.

Specifications

Material: Erosion control mat is a three dimensional multi-layered structure of polyethylene, nylon, vinyl, or other material specifically manufactured and recommended by the manufacturer for erosion control applications. Matting should be resistant to temperature extremes, high and low pH, ultraviolet radiation. It should be flexible enough to conform to depressions and uneven surfaces without being undermined.

Installation: Erosion control mat should be installed in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations. The general installation procedure is as follows:

1. Divert runoff away from the application area to the extent feasible.
2. Prepare a smooth surface by removing all vegetation, roots, tree stumps, rocks, and debris.
3. Fill holes and depressions. Grade and compact the entire area.
4. Prepare the seedbed; lime, fertilize, and seed before laying the mat.

As an alternative, the mat may be installed and covered with approximately one inch of topsoil before seed is applied.

5. Install the mat in the direction of water flow, making sure that it is in constant contact with the ground.
6. Overlap each piece approximately three inches and secure with stakes or staples in accordance with manufacturers recommendations.
7. Bury the mat in trenches constructed perpendicular to the direction of flow at about twenty five foot intervals.
8. Bury the edge and ends of mats as recommended by the manufacturer.